

Claims

1. (currently amended) ~~In an apparatus, a~~ A method of requesting resource authorization comprising:

transmitting ~~one or more~~ a PDP context request[[s]] including binding information for one or more IP media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes an authorization token and one or more IP media flow identifiers.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more IP media flow identifiers combine with the authorization token to identify the one or more IP media flows.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~apparatus is~~ method is performed in user equipment, and wherein the one or more IP media flow identifiers reference a flow order in a SDP description that is accessible to the user equipment and a P-CSCF/PCF.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~each~~ the PDP context request is a PDP context activation request or a PDP context modification request.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) ~~In a network node, a~~ A method of authorizing resources comprising:

receiving binding information for one or more IP media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes an authorization token and one or more IP media flow identifiers;

processing the binding information for one or more IP media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes an authorization token and one or more IP media flow identifiers, including interpreting each of one or more IP media flow identifiers relative to the authorization token.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the one or more IP media flow identifiers combine with the authorization token to identify the one or more IP media flows.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the method is performed in a network node that comprises a P-CSCF/PCF, and wherein the one or more IP media flow identifiers reference a flow order in a SDP description that is accessible to the P-CSCF/PCF and user equipment.

9. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the processing comprises authorizing the one or more IP media flows according to a service-based local policy decision.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A ~~computer-readable medium having encoded therein computer-executable instructions for causing user equipment programmed thereby to perform a method of requesting resource authorization and allocation,~~ the method comprising:

receiving a media authorization token; and

transmitting a context activation request including the media authorization token and plural media flow identifiers for authorizing each of ~~one or more~~ plural media flows of a session, wherein the media authorization token in combination with a media flow identifier from among the plural media flow identifiers is sufficient to uniquely identify a media flow from among the plural media flows of the session.

12. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 11 wherein the plural media flow identifiers reference a flow order in a session description, and wherein a gateway node authorizes the ~~one or more~~ plural media flows according to a service-based local policy decision.

13. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 11 wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a second media authorization token; and

transmitting a context modification request including the second media authorization token for modifying authorization of the ~~one or more~~ plural media flows.

14. (currently amended) A ~~computer-readable medium having encoded therein computer-executable instructions for causing a network node programmed thereby to perform a method of authorizing and allocating resources, the method comprising:~~

receiving a context request including a media authorization token and plural media flow identifiers for authorizing each of ~~one or more~~ plural media flows of a session, wherein the media authorization token in combination with a media flow identifier from among the plural media flow identifiers is sufficient to uniquely identify a media flow from among the plural media flows of the session; and

requesting policy information indicated by the media authorization token.

15. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium method~~ of claim 14 wherein the plural media flow identifiers reference a flow order in a session description.

16. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium method~~ of claim 14 wherein the method further comprises:

authorizing the ~~one or more~~ plural media flows according to a service-based local policy decision.

17. (currently amended) A ~~computer-readable medium having encoded therein computer-executable instructions for causing user equipment programmed thereby to perform a method of requesting resource authorization and allocation for one or more packet media flows of a session, the method comprising:~~

receiving an authorization token and packet media flow information during session protocol signaling, the packet media flow information accessible to a network node and ~~the~~ user equipment; and

transmitting ~~one or more messages~~ a message including binding information for authorizing one or more packet media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes the authorization token and one or more packet media flow identifiers, whereby each of the one or more packet media flow identifiers is interpreted relative to the authorization token to identify a packet media flow of the one or more packet media flows of the session.

18. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 17 wherein the user equipment is a cellular device, wherein the network node comprises a GGSN, and wherein ~~each of the one or more messages~~ the message is a PDP context activation or modification request.

19. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 17 wherein the one or more packet media flows are IP media flows.

20. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 17 wherein a SDP description comprises the packet media flow information, and wherein the one or more packet media flow identifiers reference a media order in the SDP description.

21. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 17 wherein the session protocol is SIP, and wherein ~~a PCF of a P-CSCF~~ PCF generates the authorization token.

22. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 17 wherein the user equipment transmits a single message to request resource authorization and allocation for all packet media flows of the session.

23. (currently amended) A ~~computer-readable medium having encoded therein computer-executable instructions for causing a network node programmed thereby to perform a method of authorizing and allocating resources for one or more packet media flows of a session;~~ the method comprising:

transmitting an authorization token and packet media flow information during session protocol signaling, the packet media flow information accessible to ~~the~~ a network node and user equipment;

receiving a message including binding information for authorizing one or more packet media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes the authorization token and one or more packet media flow identifiers; and

processing ~~one or more messages including~~ the binding information, ~~for authorizing one or more packet media flows of a session, wherein the binding information includes the authorization token, and~~ wherein the processing includes interpreting each of the one or more packet media flow identifiers relative to the authorization token to identify a packet media flow of the one or more packet media flows of the session.

24. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 23 wherein the user equipment is a cellular device, wherein the network node comprises a GGSN, and wherein the one or more packet media flows are IP media flows.

25. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 23 wherein a SDP description comprises the packet media flow information, and wherein the one or more packet media flow identifiers reference a media order in the SDP description.

26. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 23 wherein the session protocol is SIP, and wherein a ~~PCF~~ of a P-CSCF/PCF generates the authorization token.

27. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 23 wherein the network node processes a single message requesting resource authorization and allocation for all packet media flows of the session.

28. (currently amended) The ~~computer-readable medium~~ method of claim 23 wherein the method further comprises:
requesting policy information indicated by the authorization token.

29. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the binding information includes plural IP media flow identifiers and the authorization token is the only authorization token in the binding information.

30. (new) The method of claim 6 wherein the binding information includes plural IP media flow identifiers and the authorization token is the only authorization token in the binding information.

31. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the media authorization token is the only authorization token in the context activation request.

32. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein the media authorization token is the only authorization token in the context request.